

NEW SOUTH WALES.

MONTHLY SUMMARY
OF
BUSINESS STATISTICS

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SECTION A.—RAINFALL AND PRODUCTION.

1. RAINFALL—INDEX.

Index showing Weighted Average Ratio of Actual to Normal Rainfall.

(Average rainfall for each month = 100.)

Month.	Sheep Districts.					Wheat Districts.				Dairying Districts. (Coastal only).			
	N.	C.	S.	W.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.
1943.													
April ...	144	111	157	89	133	156	127	156	148	54	39	38	48
May ...	82	192	128	49	124	112	176	94	118	153	283	384	216
June ...	63	49	48	36	51	66	55	50	53	25	19	34	25
July ...	53	58	87	71	67	58	63	96	83	4	12	5	6
August ...	105	96	120	82	105	88	103	106	103	112	224	231	156
September ...	110	118	120	115	116	111	125	123	122	124	144	120	128
October ...	98	79	100	64	90	93	74	85	83	156	104	189	147
November ...	175	197	163	115	170	149	204	162	171	215	220	158	209
December ...	89	51	30	4	50	76	52	14	32	212	125	106	176
1944.													
January ...	95	42	13	17	45	87	42	9	28	232	119	33	178
February ...	70	78	11	112	58	83	56	11	32	29	70	12	37
March ...	19	50	57	30	41	15	52	55	49	54	51	25	50
April ...	34	33	105	70	61	52	36	104	80	4	48	102	28

N.—Northern; C.—Central; S.—Southern; W.—Western; T.—Total, all districts.

2. WOOL.

The total production of wool in New South Wales was 546,273,000 lb. in 1939-40; 536,907,000 lb. in 1940-41; 547,000,000 lb. in 1941-42; 497,538,000 lb.† in 1942-43 and (Preliminary Estimate) 541,824,000 lb. in 1943-44.

The British Government has entered into a contract with the Commonwealth to purchase the wool clips of Australia for the duration of the war and one year thereafter. The agreed average price for seasons 1939-40 to 1941-42 was 10.75d. sterling or 13.4375d. Australian Currency, per lb. This price was increased to 12.3625d. sterling or 15.4531d. Australian Currency per lb., commencing with the 1942-43 clip.

Month.	Number of Bales Received into Store in Sydney.							
	During Month.				Total for Season to end of Month.			
	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.
July ...	86,083	80,397	67,442	83,715	86,083	80,397	67,442	83,715
August ...	217,280	191,662	128,260	105,532	303,363	272,059	195,702	189,247
September ...	276,849	269,889	180,883	158,065	580,212	541,948	376,585	347,312
October ...	290,271	288,766	195,950	173,622	870,483	830,714	572,535	520,934
November ...	168,109	166,462	159,518	128,231	1,038,592	997,176	732,053	649,165
December ...	46,775	63,866	88,943	94,774	1,085,367	1,061,042	820,996	743,939
January ...	17,462	24,821	37,213	135,652	1,102,829	1,085,863	858,209	879,591
February ...	28,676	31,461	30,274	60,931	1,131,505	1,117,324	888,483	940,522
March ...	34,609	29,000	44,208	43,493	1,166,114	1,146,324	932,691	984,015
April ...	37,414	43,583	40,835	42,000	1,203,528	1,189,907	973,526	1,026,015
May ...	38,423	36,173	41,491	.....	1,241,951	1,226,080	1,015,017	.....
June ...	29,758	37,597	56,745	.....	1,271,709	1,263,677	1,071,762	.....

† Excludes 14 million lb. of 1943-44 wool shorn early under zoning system.

3. WHEAT.

Production in New South Wales. Compiled from returns of wheatgrowers.

Season.	Area under Wheat.		Yield of Grain.	
	Total.	Harvested For Grain.	Total.	Average per Acre.
Average 1932-33	acres.	acres.	bushels.	bushels.
to 1941-42	4,665,000	4,303,000	55,308,000	12·9
1939-40	4,681,000	4,381,000	76,552,000	17·5
1940-41	4,866,000	4,454,000	23,933,000	5·4
1941-42	4,342,000	3,969,000	48,500,000	12·2
1942-43	3,386,000	3,033,000	51,693,000	17·0

The wheat yield for 1943-44 is estimated at 47,500,000 bushels. This estimate is subject to revision.

4. BUTTER.

The production of butter in factories in the nine months ended March, 1944, was 4 per cent. less than in the corresponding period last season.

Since November, 1939, the British Government has purchased under contract the exportable surplus of Australian butter. The contract price for choicest was 137s. 2½d. per cwt. f.o.b. Australian ports to July, 1942, and 142s. 10d. since that date. The wholesale price for local consumption was fixed at 138s. 8d. per cwt. on 8th June, 1938, and increased to 166s. 10d. on 6th March, 1942.

Month.	Output of Butter—(New South Wales factories).				
	Average, 1935-36 to 1937-38.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.
Thousand lb.					
Year ended 30th June ...	113,010	103,683	85,116	93,775	...
Nine months ended Mar.	90,169	83,061	64,218	79,179	76,228
July	4,575	5,047	4,592	5,163	3,313
September	6,879	6,453	5,850	5,952	4,933
December	12,146	11,365	8,608	12,032	13,079
January	14,089	14,453	6,664	13,044	12,821
February	13,035	12,786	8,311	10,219	10,184
March	13,033	11,743	10,116	8,648	8,440
April	10,200	8,682	8,642	6,129	...
May	7,306	6,756	6,789	4,789	...
June	5,335	5,183	5,467	3,679	...

5. MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

Tabulations embracing monthly returns from 42 large factories show the following results, which afford some indication of trends in the manufacturing industry:—

Month.	Factory Sales.				Employees.				Weekly Salaries and Wages.			
	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
Thousand £.				Hundreds.				Hundred £.				
January ...	3,465	4,519	5,808	4,965	257	282	275	261	1,124	1,459	1,563	1,493
February ...	4,074	4,768	4,799	5,712	267	282	272	258	1,218	1,484	1,546	1,476
March ...	4,196	5,097	5,451	5,765	272	280	270	256	1,246	1,477	1,534	1,469
April ...	4,011	4,904	5,424	...	272	278	271	...	1,194	1,513	1,561	...
May ...	4,300	4,925	5,696	...	276	278	269	...	1,302	1,517	1,517	...
June ...	4,017	5,077	5,632	...	280	277	269	...	1,292	1,564	1,544	...
July ...	4,638	5,410	5,520	...	284	277	268	...	1,353	1,531	1,514	...
August ...	4,264	5,003	5,500	...	283	277	266	...	1,380	1,532	1,533	...
September ...	4,746	5,352	5,710	...	269	277	267	...	1,365	1,564	1,525	...
October ...	4,994	5,420	5,753	...	285	280	266	...	1,428	1,576	1,536	...
November ...	4,729	5,826	5,701	...	289	280	264	...	1,467	1,603	1,517	...
December ...	5,398	5,853	5,653	...	288	279	265	...	1,555	1,583	1,552	...
Average (January-December)	4,403	5,180	5,554	...	277	279	269	...	1,327	1,534	1,537	...

Further particulars of employment in factories are shown in Table 20.

6. BUILDING INDUSTRY.

(a) SUMMARY OF PRIVATE BUILDING.

Value of permits to erect new buildings and additions (compiled from returns of Municipal and certain Shire Councils). Government buildings are excluded.

Year.	Month of April.				March Quarter.		
	Sydney and Suburbs.	City of Sydney.	Suburbs of Sydney.		Industrial and Rural Towns.	Total, New South Wales.*	
	Total New Buildings and Additions.	New Buildings and Additions.	New Buildings.		New Buildings.	New Buildings and Additions.	
			No. of Permits.	Value.	No. of Permits.		
1942	£ 85,881	£ 22,962	8	£ 28,720	386	£ 299,460	£ 957,504
1943	124,870	27,231	15	10,996	84	32,923	414,853
1944	74,958	9,137	16	7,375	73	50,140	505,954

* Metropolis, 7 adjacent Shires and 129 rural and industrial towns; other areas not recorded.

(b) CLASSES OF PRIVATE BUILDING.

The following dissection of private building permits granted in Sydney and Suburbs and in 129 Industrial and Rural Towns in N.S.W. shows the total value for each of the principal classes of building :—

Period.	Value of New Buildings and Alterations and Additions.						
	Houses.		Flats. (a)	Factories.	Shops (b) and Public Garages.	Other (Offices, Hotels, Hospitals, etc.).	Total.
	Brick.	Wood, Fibro, etc.					
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Month of April—	<i>Sydney and Suburbs.</i>						
1942	1	...	...	68	2	15	86
1943	2	4	...	97	2	20	125
1944	5	8	...	48	4	10	75
Ten months ended 30th April,							
1942	3,020	608	878	908	59	293	5,766
1943	28	29	1	854	15	226	1,153
1944	39	53	12	803	12	207	1,126
March Quarter—	<i>129 Industrial and Rural Towns.</i>						
1943	5	32	1	19	7	31	95
1944	7	33	4	39	3	31	117
Nine Months ended 31st Mar.,							
1943	15	89	3	68	12	86	273
1944	17	89	5	109	10	94	324

Includes (a) conversions to flats ; (b) shops with dwellings attached.

(c) GOVERNMENT BUILDING.

In addition to totals for private building shown above, values of contracts accepted for the erection of buildings on behalf of Governments and semi-Governmental authorities in New South Wales were as follow :—

Area.	Value of New Buildings and Additions (Governmental).			
	Month of April.		Ten months ended 30th April.	
	1943.	1944.	1943.*	1944.
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Sydney and Suburbs	162	89	2,576	1,686
Remainder of State	106	25	1,868	632
Total, New South Wales	268	114	4,444	2,318

NOTE— Temporary structures for protection against Air Raids and alterations for this purpose are, in general, excluded.
* Revised.

SECTION B.—TRADE.

7. WHOLESALE TRADE.

Approximate Amount of Sales (N.S.W.) by Traders Registered under Sales Tax Acts.
Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.

Period.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
Million £.							
Year ended 31st December ...	192'97	200'29	202'79	229'03	238'65	240'54	...
January ...	14'21	13'24	16'33	15'83	18'69	17'18	18'02
February ...	15'73	16'54	14'04	17'48	19'39	21'60	20'48
March ...	15'79	15'78	16'97	17'40	19'53	19'44	18'00
April ...	16'83	15'79	17'88	19'06	19'19	21'88	...
May ...	16'87	17'46	14'85	18'75	20'72	19'56	...
June ...	14'98	14'88	17'07	21'76	18'93	20'91	...
July ...	16'23	15'28	16'74	17'63	19'17	19'81	...
August ...	15'29	16'81	17'17	20'41	20'86	18'75	...
September ...	17'45	19'44	17'48	21'60	19'59	19'93	...
October ...	15'66	19'22	18'50	18'23	22'06	20'80	...
November ...	16'93	17'53	18'13	20'58	19'54	21'07	...
December ...	17'00	18'32	17'03	20'28	20'98	19'61	...

8. RETAIL TRADE.

Returns collected by the Retail Traders' Association Research Bureau in conjunction with the Commonwealth Bank from the principal Sydney stores indicate the following increases or decreases per cent. for periods shown below compared with corresponding periods of previous year:—

Period.	Number of Business Days in Period.		Net Sales (Value).	Value of Stock.	Wages and Salaries Paid.	Number of Employees.	Three Monthly Moving Average ended month shown.	
	Previous Year.	Current Year.					Net Sales (Value).	Wages and Salaries Paid
Year ended December—			Percentage increase + or decrease —					
1938	303	303	+ 4'8	+ 5'2	+ 11'6	+ 5'0		
1939	303	303	+ 2'4	+ 2'0	+ 2'6	+ 0'9		
1940	303	305	+ 6'3	+ 17'0	+ 4'0	+ 1'9		
1941	305	304	+ 14'6	+ 8'0	+ 9'0	+ 4'0		
1942	304	304	— 5'3	+ 9'2	— 5'1	— 8'4		
1943	303	306	— 11'3	— 6'8	— 9'7	— 17'6		
1943.								
March	26	27	— 14'1	— 2'4	— 9'4	— 19'5	— 18'8	— 13'9
April	23	23	— 16'0	— 2'3	— 16'0	— 20'0	— 18'7	— 14'4
May	26	26	+ 0'8	— 11'1	— 11'1	— 19'7	— 9'8	— 12'2
June	25	26	— 1'3	— 10'2	— 7'6	— 15'7	— 6'0	— 11'7
July	27	27	— 25'5	— 7'7	— 8'3	— 14'7	— 8'2	— 9'0
August	26	26	— 20'7	— 11'4	— 7'0	— 15'0	— 16'2	— 7'6
September	26	26	— 11'5	— 10'0	— 6'8	— 14'6	— 19'3	— 7'3
October	26	25	— 9'9	— 9'1	— 7'5	— 13'2	— 14'3	— 7'1
November	25	26	— 1'7	— 10'1	— 3'8	— 12'2	— 7'7	— 6'0
December	24	25	+ 5'4	— 12'8	— 5'3	— 11'4	— 1'6	— 5'5
1944.								
January	25	23	— 10'0	— 12'6	— 5'5	— 11'0	— 1'1	— 4'9
February	24	25	+ 1'6	— 2'9	+ 1'9	— 7'4	— 0'2	— 3'2
March	27	27	+ 10'4	— 5'1	— 1'3	— 8'8	+ 1'3	— 1'8

Further particulars of monthly employment in retail trade are shown in Table 20.

SECTION C.—TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC.

9. RAILWAYS.

NEW SOUTH WALES RAILWAYS REVENUE AND BUSINESS.

The financial results of operations were:—

	Month of March.			Nine months ended 31st March.		
	Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.	Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1942 ...	2,392,888	2,148,675	244,213	19,924,298	13,899,675	6,024,623
1943 ...	2,829,293	2,841,488†	(-)12,195	25,559,295	19,005,986	6,553,309
1944 ...	2,902,426	3,068,226†	(-)165,800	26,194,262	20,184,394	6,009,868

* Excluding capital charges, viz. interest, exchange, sinking fund, etc., which amounted to £6,754,000 in 1942-43

† Includes amounts not applicable to a particular month.

	Month of March.		Nine months ended 31st March.	
	Tonnage of Goods and Livestock.*	Passenger Journeys.	Tonnage of Goods and Livestock.*	Passenger Journeys.
	thousands.	thousands.	thousands.	thousands.
1942 ...	1,619	19,025	13,842	161,588
1943 ...	1,622	20,714	14,803	175,904
1944 ...	1,656	20,839	14,682	186,597

* Partly estimated.

10. TRAMWAYS AND OMNIBUSES.

SERVICES OPERATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ROAD TRANSPORT, NEW SOUTH WALES

PERIOD.	SYDNEY AND SUBURBS.			NEWCASTLE AND SUBURBS.		
	Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers carried.†	Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers carried.
	£	£	thousands.	£	£	thousands.
Month of March—						
1942 ...	417,309	57,160	37,415	39,372	10,383	2,960
1943 ...	452,624	77,101	40,902	44,239	7,409	3,389
1944 ...	454,200	54,100	41,327	47,300	8,700	3,775
Nine months ended 31st March—						
1942 ...	3,750,571	593,275	336,284	323,223	77,613	24,574
1943 ...	3,822,386	544,329	348,431	372,578	59,576	28,551
1944 ...	3,887,120	377,910	354,598	398,620	60,600	31,884

* Exclusive of Sinking Fund, Interest on Loan Capital, Exchange and Current Depreciation which amounted to £569,000 in 1942-43.

† Exclusive of Sydney Harbour Bridge passengers whose journey did not extend beyond the Bridge Section.

11. MOTOR VEHICLES.

NUMBER OF REGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES (N.S.W.) AS AT VARIOUS DATES.

(Exclusive of Vehicles of Defence Services.)

Class.	1939. 31st August.	1942.		1943.			1944.	
		30th April.	31st December.	30th April.	30th June.	31st December.	31st March.	30th April.
Cars	216,633	171,400	172,028	173,142	173,188	177,245	178,986	179,539
Lorries and Vans	77,639	72,226	71,276	71,602	72,159	75,068	76,450	76,901
Trailers	6,538	7,011	6,818	6,834	6,873	7,409	7,679	7,775
Tractors†	1,102	1,372	1,375	1,380	1,382	1,429	1,455	1,466
Cycles—Solo	17,111	10,692	10,120	9,739	9,641	9,842	10,016	10,132
Cycles—Side-car	6,884	5,075	4,702	4,551	4,523	4,518	4,581	4,585
Omnibuses	794	882	901	914	913	913	931	936
Taxi-cabs	1,331	1,354	1,350	1,349	1,349	1,348	1,348	1,349
Traders' Plates ...	1,187	703	649	597	610	634	609	612
Total	329,219	270,655	269,219	270,108	270,638	278,406	282,055	283,295

† Excluding tractors used on farms only.

Average Weekly Number of New Vehicles Registered.*

Year.	Cars (Including Cabs and Omnibuses).						Lorries and Vans.					
	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March.	April.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March.	April.
1939-40	368	344	246	333	268	243	169	127	87	110	106	114
1940-41	173	163	141	163	167	121	77	69	53	70	71	47
1941-42	43	38	23	26	18	20	52	61	32	25	23	24
1942-43	18	12	7	19	7	7	5	2	6	8	13	17
1943-44	4	5	3	5	4	5	86	94	66	74	88	83

* Excluding trailers.

12. WIRELESS LICENSES.

BROADCAST LISTENERS' LICENSES IN FORCE IN N.S.W.

(Excluding Experimental Licenses.)

End of Month.	1939-40.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
March	427,964	447,310	491,816	502,810	536,795
June	433,029	458,155	494,884	500,451	552,044
September	432,795	479,485	500,125	509,332	554,227
December	441,934	483,875	501,253	523,920	558,381
January	444,522	485,854	503,346	527,733	556,775
February	446,927	488,362	500,449	533,597	561,066
March	447,310	491,816	502,810	536,795	560,665
April	451,218	494,004	503,494	537,319	561,638

SECTION D.—FINANCIAL.

13. SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS (NEW SOUTH WALES).†

As at June 30th.	Amount of Deposits. †	End of Month.	Amount of Deposits.		
			1942.	1943.	1944.
	£		£	£	£
1932	71,647,869	January ...	92,972,902	109,220,389	146,283,258
1933	72,307,685	February ...	90,647,010	112,817,955	150,374,605
1934	75,714,070	March	89,458,641	115,641,889	154,153,971
1935	77,906,402	April	91,110,603	115,500,011	150,024,547
1936	79,999,948	May	92,925,282	118,016,266	.....
1937	81,952,399	June†	94,537,937	122,405,481	.....
1938	86,015,685	July	97,330,938	126,688,719	.....
1939	87,473,789	August	99,727,345	130,518,639	.....
1940	82,110,900	September ...	101,385,379	134,162,891	.....
1941	87,750,208	October	103,583,441	136,326,132	.....
1942	94,537,937	November ...	104,929,899	138,328,054	.....
1943	122,405,481	December ...	105,744,876	142,108,496	.....

† Including accrued interest.

‡ Amount at credit of depositors' accounts.

WAR SAVINGS CERTIFICATES: The net amount received from sales of certificates less re-purchases in New South Wales totalled £15,001,461 as at 31st March, 1944, including £222,001 net receipts in March.

14. TRADING BANKS*—DEPOSITS, ETC., IN AUSTRALIA.

March Quarter.	Deposits.	Cash in Aust.†	Treasury Bills.	Govt. and Municipal Securities.	Special Wartime Deposits with Comw'th Bank.	Advances.
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1940 ...	350,492	44,112	41,257	33,351	...	279,676
1941 ...	371,127	45,557	43,472	57,659	...	278,213
1942 ...	391,254	43,732	49,496	58,221	27,587	265,037
1943 ...	447,333	43,947	78,540	61,949	80,472	236,361
1944 ...	526,888	46,925	74,500	80,435	150,478	224,573

*Nine Private Banks.

† Exclusive of London Funds.

15. PRIVATE BUSINESS IN PRIVATE BANKS (N.S.W.).

(Excluding Commonwealth and Rural Banks, and excluding Government deposits and Government Securities in Private Trading Banks.)

March Quarter.	Deposits.			Advances.	Excess of Deposits over Advances.
	Not Bearing Interest (Current).	Bearing Interest (Fixed).	Total.		
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1940 ...	60,410	65,852	126,262	116,880	9,382
1941 ...	71,478	66,474	137,952	111,160	26,792
1942 ...	82,727	67,467	150,194	108,608	41,586
1943 ...	101,438	62,513	163,951	95,356	68,595
1944 ...	145,140	87,206	232,346	120,018	112,328

16. INTER-BANK CLEARINGS (SYDNEY).

(Value of cheques drawn on a Bank other than the Bank in which they were Deposited.)

Month.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
	Amount—Million £							Index Numbers.						
January ...	67.5	66.5	82.7	90.3	92.0	106.7	107.5	97	98	110	117	123	136	150
February ...	75.6	75.5	88.9	82.0	97.1	105.7	121.2	96	96	110	114	123	139	147
March ...	82.6	80.5	87.8	89.4	102.6	123.4	130.1	95	93	107	110	119	138	146
April ...	75.7	70.7	84.3	86.9	95.4	125.3	108.4	102	98	111	111	125	150	150
May ...	82.9	82.0	90.2	106.3	98.9	123.0	...	103	100	111	117	125	155	...
June ...	86.8	80.3	94.5	97.4	116.6	132.6	...	106	101	115	123	133	163	...
July ...	70.5	71.2	94.6	98.9	99.7	114.3	...	101	98	116	125	130	155	...
August ...	72.9	74.9	83.6	87.0	99.0	122.7	...	101	99	118	123	135	160	...
September ...	77.6	74.9	84.5	94.9	105.6	116.5	...	99	99	117	124	134	155	...
October ...	79.5	78.0	90.1	101.8	115.0	115.5	...	101	100	113	123	138	152	...
November ...	82.7	86.1	93.5	99.6	105.0	129.3	...	102	102	114	124	135	149	...
December ...	88.1	91.7	100.1	104.9	121.6	127.3	...	102	106	115	124	136	150	...
Year ...	942.4	932.3	1074.8	1139.4	1248.5	1442.3	...	101	100	113	120	131	151	...

The index may be regarded as an approximate measure of changes in the volume of business transactions settled by cheques provided it is considered in conjunction with changes in price levels. It represents the ratio of each month's clearings to the average for the month concerned during the five years 1926-1930. This average is represented by 100 each month. Seasonal fluctuations have thus been eliminated. Casual fluctuations in monthly index numbers have been smoothed out by taking a three months' moving average, that is, the index shown above for each month is the average of the actual index of that month and the preceding two months. It may be compared vertically or horizontally.

The index is adjusted to eliminate the effects of Treasury Bill and other special transactions on behalf of Governments and the effects of bank amalgamations. No adjustment has been made for normal growth or change of price levels. The amounts of clearings shown are the recorded totals less Treasury Bill transactions only.

17. INTEREST RATES PER CENT. (N.S.W.).

Period.	Private First Mortgages Registered. Weighted Average Rate of Interest.*		Yield on Commonwealth Government Securities†—subject to Commonwealth Income Tax—				
			Not exceeding Rates in force in 1930.			At Current Rates.	
	Urban Securities.	Rural Securities.	Short- dated.	Medium- dated.	Long- dated.	Short- dated. 2 years.	Long- dated. 12 years.
Average for year—			Under 5 years.	5 to 10 years.	10 years and over.		
1937	5'3	5'0	3'44	3'75	3'84	...	...
1938	5'4	5'0	3'38	3'71	3'73	...	...
1939	5'6	5'2	3'84	3'87	3'92	...	...
1940	5'6	5'1	3'14	3'25	3'30	...	...
1941	5'5	4'9	2'45	2'95	3'10	...	...
1941	5'5	4'9	2 years.	7 years.	12 years.		
1942	5'4	4'9	2'42	2'87	3'13	2'47	3'23
1943	5'0	4'7	2'39	2'89	3'11	2'45	3'24
1943—June ...	5'1	4'8	2'37	2'75	2'95	2'48	3'24
September ...	5'0	4'5	2'38	2'69	2'94	2'47	3'23
December ...	5'0	4'5	2'36	2'77	3'02	2'48	3'24
1944—January ...	5'0	4'5	2'36	2'75	3'04	2'47	3'24
February ...	5'0	4'5	2'36	2'70	3'00	2'48	3'24
March ...	5'0	4'5	2'40	2'69	3'02	2'48	3'24
April ...	5'0	4'5	2'38	2'68	3'00	2'48	3'24

* Average of three months ended month shown.

† Compiled by Commonwealth Bank as at last Wednesday in month.

18. REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS (N.S.W.).

(Registered under Real Property Act and Registration of Deeds Act.)

Month.	Consideration of Sales.					Amount of Mortgages.*				
	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
	Thousand £.									
January	1,884	2,383	2,815	1,226	1,090	1,480	1,148	916	595	383
February	2,524	2,557	2,472	1,204	1,506	1,428	1,329	975	390	611
March	2,464	2,677	2,083	1,550	1,552	1,686	1,320	996	503	663
April	2,392	2,574	2,276	1,517	931	1,560	1,305	891	536	302
May	2,908	2,835	1,154	1,185	...	1,449	1,324	526	381	...
June	2,464	3,029	1,266	1,358	...	1,305	1,273	599	400	...
July	3,217	3,165	1,540	1,783	...	1,748	1,470	622	399	...
August	2,259	2,545	1,671	1,379	...	1,099	1,213	451	450	...
September	3,149	2,941	1,616	1,551	...	1,240	1,571	516	432	...
October	2,885	3,013	1,514	1,549	...	1,744	1,413	423	618	...
November	2,430	2,548	1,942	1,558	...	1,259	1,022	530	558	...
December	2,477	2,972	1,260	1,592	...	1,099	1,242	562	494	...
Year	31,053	33,239	21,609	17,542	...	16,497	15,630	8,007	5,756	...

* Including new mortgages and renewals as registered.

NOTE.—The amounts shown relate substantially to mortgages of fixed amounts for fixed periods, and exclude fluctuating advances (such as overdrafts) secured by mortgage. Mortgages providing collateral security are included.

19. LIENS ON CROPS AND WOOL AND MORTGAGES ON LIVESTOCK.

(Registered under Liens on Crops and Wool and Stock Mortgages Act.)

	Month of April.			Four months ended 30th April.		
	Crops.	Wool.*	Livestock.*	Crops.	Wool.*	Livestock.*
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1941	197,016	290,270	126,106	1,276,789	1,218,329	399,492
1942	214,250	211,420	57,183	928,691	1,028,725	322,084
1943	240,702	190,894	55,520	747,636	816,196	284,163
1944	155,595	163,069	52,231	562,030	494,516	207,963

See note under Table 18. * Loans secured by both lien on wool and mortgage on sheep are included under both headings.

SECTION E.—GENERAL.

20. EMPLOYMENT IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS IN CIVIL EMPLOYMENT.

The estimates shown below are based on Civilian Registers and returns supplied monthly by employers for purposes of Commonwealth Pay-roll Tax as from July, 1941. Employees in defence forces at home or abroad and Government "relief" workers are not included.

Month.	Estimated Total Employment. (Excluding Rural, Household, Domestic and Defence Forces.)			Estimated Employment in Main Industrial Groups.						
	Governmental Authorities.	Private Employers.	Total.	Mining and Quarrying.	Factories.	Building and Construction.	Transport and Communication.	Retail Trade.	Other Commerce and Finance.	Professional and Personal Services.
	(a)				(b)	(c)				(d)
MALES. (Thousands.)										
1933—June ...	103·2	275·7	378·9	...	94·5	...	...	...	...	...
1939—July ...	141·5	393·4	529·9	...	158·8	...	...	...	...	...
1941—July ...	141·5	404·8	546·3	25·8	202·1	53·6	78·2	41·3	43·3	52·5
Nov. ...	144·3	411·1	555·4	25·8	210·5	50·5	79·8	41·5	44·6	52·6
1942—July ...	158·6	376·0	534·6	25·4	213·3	44·2	80·3	32·3	36·0	46·0
Dec. ...	154·5	375·4	529·9	25·0	215·7	36·1	79·9	31·9	35·7	44·5
1943—Feb. ...	156·7	372·1	528·8	24·7	217·2	34·5	81·0	29·8	36·1	44·3
Mar. ...	156·2	368·6	525·2	24·7	218·4	34·3	80·2	29·3	34·9	44·4
April ...	156·6	367·5	524·0	23·9	219·1	32·4	80·3	29·2	33·9	44·2
May ...	156·5	367·9	523·7	23·0	219·0	31·3	79·8	28·9	33·6	44·0
June ...	155·8	365·4	522·0	23·2	218·9	31·1	80·2	28·9	33·5	43·5
July ...	155·6	364·9	520·8	23·1	217·4	29·0	81·5	28·7	33·2	43·3
Aug. ...	155·9	365·0	520·9	23·0	217·5	30·0	80·2	28·5	33·6	43·4
Sept. ...	155·0	365·0	520·0	23·0	217·8	29·0	80·6	28·4	33·4	43·8
Oct. ...	154·9	364·9	519·8	23·1	217·9	29·2	80·8	28·3	33·4	43·9
Nov. ...	153·9	366·2	520·1	23·0	218·0	29·1	80·9	28·2	33·8	44·1
Dec. ...	152·6	369·2	521·8	24·7	217·3	28·8	80·9	29·7	33·5	44·5
1944—Jan. ...	152·5	369·6	522·1	24·6	217·9	28·1	81·5	28·4	34·1	44·8
Feb. ...	153·0	369·6	522·6	24·7	217·7	28·0	82·2	28·3	34·2	44·7
Mch. ...	152·4	370·8	523·2	24·7	218·0	28·1	81·9	28·3	34·5	44·9
FEMALES. (Thousands.)										
1933—June ...	16·8	101·8	118·6	...	36·3	...	...	...	...	...
1939—July ...	19·4	148·6	168·0	...	59·3	...	...	...	...	...
1941—July ...	21·7	192·4	214·1	0·2	76·0	0·7	8·1	40·9	17·6	56·8
Nov. ...	23·0	201·5	224·5	0·2	80·7	0·7	8·4	42·9	19·4	58·0
1942—July ...	29·3	203·6	232·9	0·2	84·8	0·7	9·0	41·1	20·7	58·9
Dec. ...	35·1	208·9	244·0	0·2	91·1	0·7	10·6	41·9	21·0	59·8
1943—Feb. ...	37·2	207·3	244·5	0·2	91·4	0·7	10·8	39·8	21·4	61·1
Mar. ...	38·7	207·8	246·5	0·2	92·6	0·7	11·4	39·7	21·0	61·6
April ...	39·8	208·1	247·9	0·2	93·8	0·7	11·6	39·3	21·1	61·7
May ...	41·0	206·9	247·9	0·2	93·9	0·7	11·7	39·1	20·8	62·0
June ...	42·9	206·8	249·7	0·2	94·6	0·7	12·3	39·1	20·7	62·2
July ...	45·8	204·1	249·9	0·2	94·6	0·7	12·9	38·5	20·5	62·3
Aug. ...	46·5	205·0	251·5	0·2	95·3	0·7	13·2	38·1	20·8	62·7
Sept. ...	46·7	206·5	253·2	0·2	96·4	0·7	13·1	38·0	20·8	63·3
Oct. ...	46·8	207·9	254·7	0·2	96·5	0·7	13·2	38·0	20·9	64·3
Nov. ...	47·0	208·3	255·3	0·2	96·2	0·7	13·4	38·3	20·8	64·4
Dec. ...	46·4	210·0	256·4	0·2	95·5	0·7	13·4	40·1	20·8	64·1
1944—Jan. ...	46·6	205·5	252·1	0·2	93·3	0·7	13·5	37·5	20·6	64·4
Feb. ...	47·2	205·5	252·7	0·2	93·1	0·7	13·8	37·3	20·6	64·8
Mch. ...	47·0	206·0	253·0	0·2	92·9	0·7	13·6	37·1	20·4	65·5
TOTAL. (Thousands.)										
1933—June ...	120·0	377·5	497·5	...	130·8	...	...	...	...	...
1939—July ...	155·9	542·0	697·9	...	218·1	...	...	...	...	...
1941—July ...	163·2	597·2	760·4	26·0	278·1	54·3	86·3	82·2	60·9	109·3
Nov. ...	167·3	612·6	779·9	26·0	291·2	51·2	88·2	84·4	64·0	110·6
1942—July ...	187·9	579·6	767·5	25·6	298·1	44·9	89·3	73·4	56·7	104·9
Dec. ...	189·6	584·3	773·9	25·2	306·8	36·8	90·5	73·8	56·7	104·3
1943—Feb. ...	193·9	580·0	773·9	24·9	308·6	35·2	91·8	69·6	57·5	105·4
Mar. ...	194·9	579·9	774·8	24·9	311·0	35·0	91·6	69·0	55·9	106·0
April ...	196·4	576·7	773·1	24·1	312·9	33·1	91·9	68·5	55·0	105·9
May ...	197·5	574·4	771·9	25·2	312·9	32·0	91·5	68·0	54·4	106·0
June ...	198·7	574·7	773·4	25·4	313·5	31·8	92·5	68·0	54·2	105·7
July ...	202·4	569·5	771·9	25·3	312·0	30·6	94·4	67·2	53·7	105·6
Aug. ...	202·4	569·9	772·3	25·2	312·8	31·6	93·4	66·6	54·4	106·1
Sept. ...	201·7	571·5	773·2	25·2	314·2	30·6	93·7	66·4	54·2	107·1
Oct. ...	201·7	572·8	774·5	25·3	314·4	29·9	94·0	66·3	54·3	108·2
Nov. ...	200·9	574·5	775·4	25·2	314·2	29·8	94·3	66·5	54·6	108·5
Dec. ...	199·0	579·2	778·2	24·9	312·8	29·5	94·3	69·8	54·3	108·6
1944—Jan. ...	199·1	575·1	774·2	24·8	311·2	28·5	95·0	65·9	54·7	109·2
Feb. ...	200·2	575·1	775·3	24·9	310·8	28·7	95·0	65·6	54·8	109·5
Mch. ...	199·4	576·8	776·2	24·9	310·9	28·8	95·5	65·4	54·9	110·4

(a) Employees of Commonwealth, State and Local Government Authorities and of Allied Governments.

(b) Exclusive of Working Proprietors. Numbers for July, 1943, and later months are subject to revision.

(c) Includes Allied Works projects.

(d) Includes Education, Health, Hotels and Restaurants, Professional and Personal Services (except private domestic).

NOTE.—Estimates of employment in principal industries shown above replace former data which related to Pay-roll Tax returns only.

21. CONSUMPTION OF GAS AND ELECTRICITY.

Index of Monthly Sales of Gas and Electricity (Sydney).

(Based on number of units each equal to 3,412 British Thermal Units.)

Month.	Average, 1929 to 1931.	1929.	1932.	1934.	1936.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
January ...	100	103	93	100	110	119	125	136	141	141	164	155
February ...	100	105	95	100	112	122	125	135	142	145	159	161
March ...	100	102	95	99	111	121	130	130	143	146	164	165
April... ..	100	104	96	101	110	119	125	137	141	147	164	162
May	100	106	95	100	110	122	128	128	146	144	166	...
June	100	103	99	103	114	127	131	135	150	154	174	...
July	100	105	97	100	112	126	134	139	149	158	171	...
August ...	100	106	97	103	107	128	135	137	151	157	181	...
September ...	100	108	97	101	113	123	134	134	151	158	171	...
October ...	100	109	96	104	113	121	135	137	154	163	162	...
November ...	100	109	97	104	116	124	136	139	152	161	164	...
December ...	100	105	99	106	116	124	131	138	153	165	163	...
Year	100	105	96	102	112	123	131	135	148	154	167	...

The base for each month is the average sales in the corresponding month of the three years, 1929 to 1931.

22. RETAIL PRICE INDEX NUMBERS—SYDNEY—WAR PERIOD.

(Base: Weighted Average for 6 Capital Cities in 1923-27 = 1,000)

Quarter.	Food and Groceries.	Rent— 4 and 5 rooms.	Clothing.	Miscellaneous Items.	Total Household Expenditure.	
					Index Number.	Increase from Sept. Quarter, 1939.
						Per cent.
1939—September ...	930	1,039	841	939	933	...
1940—September ...	945	1,042	948	996	973	4'3
1941—September ...	947	1,043	1,129	1,062	1,027	10'1
1942—March ...	1,005	1,045	1,211	1,085	1,070	14'7
June ...	1,034	1,043	1,279	1,089	1,096	17'5
September ...	1,061	1,042	1,337	1,105	1,122	20'3
December ...	1,060	1,042	1,382	1,140	1,138	22'0
1943—March ...	1,050	1,042	1,408	1,145	1,141	22'3
June ...	1,065	1,042	1,479	1,162	1,165	24'9
September ...	1,039	1,042	1,463	1,176	1,154	23'7
December ...	1,015	1,042	1,449	1,179	1,143	22'5
1944—March ...	1,019	1,043	1,443	1,176	1,143	22'5

23. BASIC WAGE—INDUSTRIAL AWARDS.

Amount per week—Adult Males.

YEAR.	Sydney, Newcastle, Wollongong— Port Kembla.*				Crown Employees. (All Districts).			
	Quarterly adjustment commencing—							
	February.	May.	August.	November.	February.	May.	August.	November.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1939	81 0	82 0	81 0	82 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	80 0
1940	82 0	83 0	85 0	85 0	81 0	81 0	83 0	84 0
1941	88 0	88 0	89 0	89 0	86 0	87 0	87 0	88 0
1942	91 0	93 0	95 0	97 0	90 0	92 0	94 0	96 0
1943	98 0	98 0	100 0	99 0	97 0	97 0	99 0	98 0
1944	99 0	99 0	...	...	97 0	97 0	...	...

* In all other districts, except Broken Hill, the rates were 3s. less.

24. PRICES OF METALS.

Average Monthly Prices of Metals (Export Parity f.o.b. Australia) in Australian Currency.

Period.	Silver (Standard).		Lead.		Zinc (Electrolytic).		Tin (Standard).		Gold (Fine).	
	per oz.		per ton.		per ton.		per ton.		per oz.	
	s.	d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
1929	2	0.57	21	14 5	25	19 5	200	11 5	4	4 11
1938	2	0.14	17	12 11	19	12 10	228	11 10	8	17 2
1939	2	1.42	17	12 1	19	15 3	268	3 6	9	14 4
1940	2	2.95	18	14 6	22	9 11	292	19 8	10	13 1
1941	2	4.26	19	11 4	22	12 11	295	1 6	10	13 8
1942	2	4.66	21	9 9	22	2 11	285	9 1	10	9 1
1943	2	4.63	22	19 2	23	15 2	283	1 6	10	9 0
1944—January ...	2	4.63	25	1 6	22	0 6	283	1 6	10	9 0
February ...	2	4.63	24	3 3	22	0 6	283	1 6	10	9 0
March ...	2	4.63	24	7 10	22	0 6	283	1 6	10	9 0
April ...	2	4.63	25	14 6	22	0 6	283	1 6	10	9 0

25. STOCK EXCHANGE INDEX (SYDNEY).

The following index of the values of the principal Company shares on Sydney Stock Exchange embraces the ordinary shares of companies (excluding banking companies) whose business is conducted wholly or largely in New South Wales.

The prices of individual shares are unweighted, and each group average is the mean of the average monthly prices per £ of paid-up capital. The aggregate index is the average for the whole of the shares included in the groups with the addition of 24 miscellaneous shares. There is no base period as the index represents the ratio per cent. of the average prices of ordinary shares to their par values, adjustment being made where capital is written off or bonus shares are issued.

Month.	23 Manufacturing and Distributing Companies.	10 Retail Companies.	8 Public Utility Companies.	5 Pastoral and Finance Companies.	5 Insurance Companies.	Total* Companies 75.	34 Active Shares included in foregoing.
April, 1929 \$	179.3	183.8	129.4	174.1	243.5	174.4	172.6
Sept., 1931 \$	72.3	60.2	87.9	75.2	121.3	74.4	77.2
Mar., 1937 \$	213.8	203.8	181.0	169.2	281.2	190.4	200.5
1943—April ...	234.1	179.8	141.2	133.0	254.1	179.1	195.8
July ...	235.4	181.4	143.2	133.0	254.1	181.0	197.6
August ...	235.7	189.2	145.2	133.1	254.1	182.7	198.9
Sept. ...	236.1	191.8	145.4	134.0	254.1	183.7	199.9
Oct. ...	236.5	192.8	146.6	134.3	254.1	184.3	200.3
Nov. ...	236.7	193.9	147.8	135.3	254.1	184.9	200.5
Dec. ...	236.9	193.8	148.2	135.0	254.1	185.2	200.4
1944—Jan. ...	237.1	193.8	148.3	135.0	254.1	185.4	200.4
Feb. ...	237.0	193.8	149.3	135.0	254.1	185.6	200.6
March ...	237.1	194.0	149.7	135.1	254.1	185.7	200.7
April ...	237.2	194.0	150.1	136.9	254.1	185.8	201.0

* Including 24 Miscellaneous Companies. § The highest point of the index (75 Companies) prior to the slump was reached in April, 1929; the lowest point was in September, 1931. The highest point of the pre-war period was in March, 1937.

The population of N.S.W. at 31st December, 1943, was 2,869,978 or 39.5 per cent. of the total population of Australia (Sydney and Suburbs, 31st December, 1942, 1,384,380).

NOTICE.

This summary is issued as soon as practicable after the end of each month. The subscription for twelve months is 3s. (posted) payable to the Government Printer, Phillip-street, Sydney, or 3d. per single copy at the Government Printing Office. This charge applies in all cases, except exchanges and Government Departments.

The figures for the most recent months are, in general, subject to revision.

Bureau of Statistics and Economics, 61 Hunter-street, Sydney.

31st May, 1944.